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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/657,813	09/08/2003	Robert Daniel Maher III	NR015US	1127
27683	7590	02/16/2007	EXAMINER	
HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP 901 MAIN STREET, SUITE 3100 DALLAS, TX 75202			CERVONE, MICHAEL ANTHONY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2131	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		02/16/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/657,813	MAHER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael A. Cervone	2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date See Attached.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 3, 5 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. Claim 3 recites the limitation "the secure connection". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
4. Claims 5 and 13 recite the limitation "the voice-over-Internet Protocol call". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
5. Claim 13-15 recites the limitation "the system". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Examiner assumes these claims should be directed to "the method" of the previous claims for purpose of examination. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Watson (US 2003/0227903).

8. As per claim 1, Watson is directed to a system for traversing a network address translation/firewall device, having a public side and a private side, with network traffic, the network traffic passing between a device on the private side and a device on the public side; the system comprising: a network processing system on the public side of the network address translation/firewall device (router), the network processing system operable to anchor network traffic to and from the private side of the network address translation/firewall device [See 0033-0035]; and a traversal client (PPG) on the private side of the network address translation/firewall device having a connection with the network processing system, wherein the traversal client is operable to pass packets through the network address translation/firewall device in order to create allocations in the network address translation/firewall device to allow the network traffic to pass

between the private side device and the public side device, and wherein the traversal client does not reside in the path of the traffic between the private side device and the public side device [See 0031-0032, 0050, 0072-0074 and Fig.1].

9. As per claim 2, Watson is applied as stated in the rejection of claim 1. Watson further teaches that the anchoring by the network processing system is accomplished by substituting the address associated with the private side device with an address assigned to the network processing system [See 0033-0035].

10. As per claim 3, Watson is applied as stated in the rejection of claim 1. Watson further teaches that the packets sent by the traversal client through the network address translation/firewall to create allocations in the network address translation/firewall device are formed in the network processing system and sent to the traversal client over the secure connection [See 0052 and 0072].

11. As per claim 4, Watson is applied as stated in the rejection of claim 1. Watson further teaches that the network traffic is a voice-over-Internet Protocol session [See 0028 and 0031].

12. As per claim 5, Watson is applied as stated in the rejection of claim 4. Watson further teaches that the voice-over-Internet Protocol call uses SIP messaging [See 0028].

13. As per claim 6, Watson is applied as stated in the rejection of claim 4. Watson further teaches that the voice-over-Internet-Protocol session includes signaling traffic (call setup) separate from the bearer traffic, and wherein the signaling traffic from the public side device is transmitted to the private side device using the traversal client and the secure connection [See 0031 and 0076].

14. As per claim 7, Watson is applied as stated in the rejection of claim 4. Watson further teaches that the private side device must register with a registrar on the public side of the network address translation/firewall device in order to receive voice-over-Internet-Protocol calls [See 0069].

15. Claims 8-15 are directed to "method" claims analogous to "system" claims 1-7. Claims 8-15 are rejected based on the same rationale as the rejection of claims 1-7.

Conclusion

16. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Fangman et al. (US 7,068,657) is directed to a system for routing IP packets in an IP telephony environment. Schwartz (US 2002/0199114) is directed to a firewall traversal method. Montenegro (US 6,233,688) is directed to remote firewall traversal. Naudus (US 6,202,081) is directed to a firewall traversal protocol. Bradd et al. (US 2003/0118002) is directed to a method for setting up an IP

Telephony connection between networks. Young et al. (US 2003/0033418) is directed to configuration of a VoIP network gateway device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael A. Cervone whose telephone number is 571-272-3712. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MAC 2/13/07


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